

City of Oxford.



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

1905.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

## OF THE

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



*Medical Officer's Department,  
Town Hall, Oxford.*

*To the Members of the City Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you a report of the sanitary condition of the district during the year 1905.

#### *Summary of Vital Statistics.*

Area in statute acres, 4,719.

Population estimated to the middle of 1905 = 50,866.

Total Births = 1,081 ; rate per 1,000 = 21·25.

Total Deaths = 663 ; rate per 1,000 = 13·03.

Death-rate from the seven chief Zymotic Diseases = 1·12.

Deaths under one year, rate per 1,000 Births = 118·4.

Percentage of Deaths not medically certified = 0·3.

Death and Birth-rates in England and Wales, &c. Oxford is placed among the 142 towns :—

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Zymotic Death Rate.	Infants under one year; rate per 1,000 Births.
England and Wales	27·9	16·2	1·94	146
76 Towns - -	29·1	17·2	2·49	160
142 Towns - -	27·5	15·6	2·02	154
Oxford - -	21·2	13·0	1·12	118

In the event of a non-resident being admitted to any of the following Institutions situated in the City, viz., Radcliffe Infirmary, Eye Hospital, City Hospital, St. John's Hospital, or the Warneford Asylum, and dying there, the death is excluded, while the death of an Oxford resident occurring in the Small Pox Hospital, Headington Workhouse, or Littlemore Asylum, which are not in the City, is included in the nett death-rate.

The age and sex distribution is slightly more favourable to life in Oxford than it is in England and Wales as a whole, and for purposes of comparison, the Oxford death-rate should be multiplied by 1·026. The following is a list of the tables dealing with the Vital Statistics of the City :—

I. Population, &c., at time of 1901 Census.

The Colleges and Halls situated within the Oxford Poor Law Incorporation constitute a separate parish, the area of which is included in the areas of the surrounding or adjoining parishes. The parish comprises the following :—Wadham, Christ Church, Pembroke, Balliol, St. John's, Trinity, All Souls, Brasenose, Lincoln, Oriel (part), St. Mary's Hall, Exeter, Jesus, Magdalen, Hertford, New College, Queen's, St. Edmund's Hall, University, New Inn Hall, and Worcester ; while Charsley's Hall, Keble, Corpus Christi, Merton, Oriel (part), and St. Alban Hall, situated in the Headington district, are rated in their corporate character as integral parts of the parishes in which they are situated.

II. Age and sex distribution of the population.

III. Vital Statistics of the whole district for 1905 and previous years.

IV. Deaths and births belonging to the district during 1905, arranged in parishes.



The deaths of residents in Public Institutions have been referred to their proper parishes.

IVa. Causes of death in the different parishes.

V. Deaths in Public Institutions.

VI. Causes and ages of deaths which make up the nett death-rate.

VII. Notifications of Infectious Disease during last ten years.

VIII. Ages of cases notified during 1905.

IX. Districts in which the cases occurred.

X. Deaths from some of the more important preventable diseases since 1872.

XI. The Zymotic Death-rate.

*Population and Vital Statistics.* Tables I. to VI.

Tables I. and II. have been reprinted for the sake of reference.

The figures in Table III. are on the whole satisfactory. The death-rate, though slightly higher than last year, is well below the average, but there is no improvement in the birth-rate. Of the 1,081 births registered, 56 or 5.18 % were illegitimate. The number of children belonging to the district who died before reaching the age of one year was 128, corresponding to a rate of 118.4 per 1,000 births.

#### *Infant Mortality.*

Thanks to the energy of Mr. T. W. Hull, I have again been able to obtain particulars as to feeding, &c., in a large proportion of the cases.

In the Table below will be found the chief causes of death, and the ages at which these deaths occurred.

Age at Death.	Premature and De- bility at Birth.	Congenital Defects.	Convulsions.	Dentition.	Wasting.	Diarrhœa, Gas- tritis, &c.	Respiratory Diseases.	Infectious Diseases.	Accident.	Other causes.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Birth—I day -	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	3	7
1 day -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1
2 days -	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
3 „ -	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
4 „ -	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
5 „ -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 „ -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Birth—I week	15	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	11	8	19
1 week -	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	3
2 weeks -	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	2	5
3 „ -	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	3	2	5
Birth—I month	20	...	4	...	2	...	...	...	1	5	17	15	32
1 month -	2	...	...	...	2	2	3	1	...	1	7	4	11
2 months -	1	1	...	...	3	...	2	3	...	...	6	4	10
3 „ -	1	...	...	...	...	2	3	7	...	1	7	7	14
4 „ -	...	...	1	...	2	6	1	2	1	1	9	5	14
5 „ -	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	3	...	1	4	4	8
6 „ -	...	...	...	2	1	1	2	...	...	...	3	3	6
7 „ -	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	3	1	4
8 „ -	...	...	...	1	1	3	6	3	...	...	6	8	14
9 „ -	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	3	1	4
10 „ -	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	2	3	5
11 „ -	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	1	...	...	3	3	6
Birth to 1 year	24	1	5	3	14	19	26	25	2	9	70	58	128

There was a considerable falling off in the number of cases of diarrhœa, &c., but an increase in the number of deaths due to respiratory and infectious diseases.

The particulars obtained are summarized in Tables A and

B. Table A bears a close resemblance to the corresponding Table for 1904,—the low percentage of breast-fed children who died of diarrhoea, wasting, &c., diseases closely associated with errors in feeding, is again very marked. In several instances the mothers stated that their children had been doing well, until they were obliged to adopt artificial feeding. The use of a bottle with a long rubber tube is still very common. It is almost impossible to keep the tube clean, and the condition generally found when one of these tubes is cut open is filthy. The kind of bottle used was investigated in a certain number of cases, and it is somewhat significant that in the cases of children who died of diarrhoea, 10 out of 14, or over 71%, used bottles with long, and presumably foul, rubber tubes.

Cause of Death.	Bottle with long tube.	Bottle without.
Premature Birth -	...	2
Convulsions - -	1	1
Wasting, &c. - -	6	8
Diarrhoea, &c. -	10	4
All other causes -	9	13
Total - - -	26	28

The choice of feeding-bottle would seem to be a question of trouble rather than expense.

In Table B will be found a list of cases in which factors likely to exercise a prejudicial effect on the health of the child are noted.

The numbers are small, but in the case of diarrhoea the percentage of dirty houses is very large. Although "insured" has been entered as one of the factors, there is no evidence that the death-rate is higher among insured children than those not insured.



TABLE A.

	Cause of death.	Breast (only).	Breast (partial).	Milk and water.	Milk and patent food.	Milk and oatmeal, baked flour, &c.	Milk and bread, or biscuits.	Humanized milk, &c., &c.	Totals.
1 to 4 weeks.	Premature Birth, &c. -	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	3
	Convulsions and Dentition	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	2
	Wasting, &c. - -	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	3
	Diarrhœa, &c. - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Other causes - - -	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	3
		6	...	4	1	...	...	...	11
1 to 4 months.	Premature Birth, &c. -	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	3
	Convulsions and Dentition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Wasting, &c. - - -	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	5
	Diarrhœa, &c. - - -	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	4
	Other causes - - -	12	1	5	...	...	1	...	19
		15	1	13	1	...	1	...	31
4 to 6 months.	Premature Birth, &c. -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Convulsions and Dentition	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
	Wasting, &c. - - -	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	3
	Diarrhœa, &c. - - -	1	...	2	1	2	1	...	7
	Other causes - - -	6	1	2	...	1	...	...	10
		7	1	5	3	4	1	...	21
6 months to 1 year.	Premature Birth, &c. -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Convulsions and Dentition	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	3
	Wasting, &c. - - -	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	4
	Diarrhœa, &c. - - -	...	...	5	1	...	1	...	7
	Other causes - - -	2	1	6	4	...	8	...	21
		4	1	13	7	...	10	...	35
		32	3	35	12	4	12	...	98

The cases in col. "Breast (partial)" were also given biscuits.



TABLE B.

Factors likely to affect children.					Premature Birth, &c.	Convulsions and Dentition.	Wasting.	Diarrhoea, &c.	All other causes.
1	First or only child	-	-	-	...	2	9	3	9
2	Mother dead, nurse children, &c.	-	-	-	1	...	1	...	2
3	Dirty house	-	-	-	2	2	1	6	3
4	Illegitimate	-	-	-	...	...	4	3	5
5	Insured	-	-	-	...	...	5	5	19
Total cases (Table A.)					6	6	15	18	53

In Table VI. the causes of death for the whole district are set out at length. From the standpoint of preventive medicine these figures are in many cases most misleading. A large number of deaths were registered as due to "Heart Disease," only one of these being stated to be due to rheumatic fever, and yet rheumatic fever is one of the commonest causes of heart disease in the young.

In the same way, if we flatter ourselves that only three deaths last year were due to the abuse of alcohol, we shall make a very great mistake. In many deaths registered under the headings of Apoplexy—disease of the liver,—disease of the kidneys, &c., there is little doubt that the abuse of alcohol was the primary cause of death; while no one familiar with the City will deny that the same agent was probably indirectly responsible for a still larger number of deaths.

Nearly all diseases are to a greater or less extent preventable, but the measures must be adopted early, not when the victims are on their death-beds.

The majority of us are inclined to regard the removal of house-refuse and the isolation of infectious cases as the

main objects of preventive medicines and hygiene, and, until we realise that the object of hygiene should be "the care of the whole physical and moral well-being of man, both individually and collectively, and the prevention of disease," this waste of life will continue.

During the past year the City has adopted By-laws for the regulation of "Houses let in Lodgings," which are gradually being put into force, and which will make it possible to obtain better sanitary surroundings for a poor and neglected class. New By-laws for better control of the Common Lodging Houses are also under consideration.

In the case of bad houses, Wareham's Yard has been voluntarily demolished, but certain insanitary spots still exist which serve as a breeding place for vice and disease.

During the year much good work has been done by the various Committees of the Oxford Sanitary Aid Society, of which I would specially mention the free course of lectures to working women, and the visiting of infants.

Too little importance has been attached to the efforts of the Council to promote the "physical and moral well-being" of the citizens by means of the free library, the recreation-grounds and public bathing-places. Work of this sort undoubtedly exercises a beneficial effect on our vital statistics.

There is, however, room for improvement. To take one instance:—Exercise and recreation are essential for the physical and moral well-being of the boys who have left school and are employed all day at indoor and sedentary occupations. Public and private enterprise has done singularly little in Oxford for this class. In the long winter evenings open-air bathing-places and recreation-grounds are of no use, while the classes at the technical school and the free library attract only a few. They are in the way at home, and the only place left is the street.

If every death was traced back to its ultimate cause, the headings in the causes of death might not be scientific, but they would be startling.

Passing on to Table IV., in which the deaths are distributed in their proper parishes, the figures are less satisfactory. In the case of children who died before reaching the age of one year, the rate, calculated per 1,000 births, is highest in the parishes of St. Clement and St. Ebbe, the rate being 168 in the former and 172 in the latter, against 87 for St. Giles. The rate for the whole parish of St. Aldate is 127, that for the portion on the Berkshire side of the river being 143, while for the remaining portion it is only 97. In the latter case, however, the numbers are too small to draw any reliable conclusions. Similarly in the case of the whole civil parish of St. Thomas the rate is 103, that for the portion on the west of the railway being 87·5, and for the remainder 113.

In Table IVa. the causes of death in the different parishes are shown, deaths occurring in public institutions being referred to the parish in which the person used to live.

In the case of nursing homes, &c., the deaths are entered under the parish in which they occurred. It must be remembered that a certain number of persons suffering from various diseases move to the districts in which they die for motives of health or economy, and allowance should be made for this in studying the tables.

### *Infectious Diseases.*

Tables VII.—XI. From the seven chief Zymotic Diseases 57 deaths were registered against 46 in 1904. The deaths from Diarrhœa decreased from 31 to 17, but there was a very serious increase in the number due to Whooping Cough, which was the largest since 1897.



The large increase in cases of notifiable disease was due to the continued prevalence of Scarlet Fever.

*The Seven Chief Zymotic Diseases.*

*Small Pox.* No cases were reported during the year.

*Scarlet Fever.* Scarlet Fever was more prevalent last year than in 1904, 472 cases being notified against 342 in the preceding year. The number of deaths registered during the year as due to Scarlet Fever was only 8, corresponding to a fatality of 1·7 %. Of the 472 cases, 356, or over 75 %, were removed to hospital, while the remaining 116 were nursed at home. Of the latter 5 died, corresponding to a fatality of 4·3 %, while of the former 3, or 0·84 %, terminated fatally.

A glance at Table VIII. will show that of the cases notified, 418, or over 88 %, were between the ages of 1 and 15 years, and a very large proportion of these were children attending Elementary Schools.

This, however, is not to be wondered at; Scarlet Fever is essentially a child's complaint, and is catching. Hence, where large numbers of children are herded together, the disease, once it gets a footing, is likely to spread.

It is in the schools that the fight against Scarlet Fever must be chiefly carried on.

The routine method adopted in the case of school children is briefly as follows :—

When a case is reported, the first step is to visit the house and ascertain the names of all the children and which schools they attend. A note is then sent to each school, stating the names and addresses of the children, and what disease the patient is suffering from, and requesting the teachers to exclude the children specified until they produce certificates, that they may return to school. The teachers



of the schools attended by the patients are informed which child is ill, in order that they may be on the look-out for fresh cases in the same class.

The same information is sent to the Education Department, and serves a double purpose, as the Attendance Officers, by knowing the houses infected, avoid the risk of carrying infection, and are on the watch for cases of illness in the neighbouring houses which have been regarded as colds, &c., by the parents.

In the past it has been the custom to exclude the children for a definite period, but this system, especially when the number of cases were large, had its drawbacks. If second and even third cases occurred in a house, all the notices had to be repeated, and in many instances, where a doubtful case was being watched, it was impossible to specify a definite period. There was a good deal of confusion, and when children were found going straight to school after playing with a case of Scarlet Fever that was being nursed at home, I adopted the system of giving certificates.

Since April every child attending an Elementary School has been given a certificate before returning, after a case of Scarlet Fever or Diphtheria has been reported in its home.

Special cases are judged on their own merits, but as a rule, if the patient is removed to hospital, the other children are allowed to return in 14 days, and the patient 3 weeks after discharge from hospital, while if the patient is nursed at home, none of the children are allowed to return until the patient is declared to be free from infection, and the house has been disinfected. The number of certificates given from the beginning of April to the end of December was 439. In the table below the number of certificates given to the different schools is shown :—

TABLE A.

CERTIFICATES GIVEN TO SCARLET FEVER PATIENTS, AND  
CONTACTS ATTENDING ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, APRIL  
TO DECEMBER.

School.	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.
Central - - -	2	3	...
Cowley St. John - - -	7	6	14
East Oxford - - -	21	15	13
Holy Trinity - - -	10	8	17
Holywell - - -	...	4	...
New Hinksey - - -	4	10	11
St. Aldate - - -	10	2	6
St. Aloysius - - -	2	...	...
St. Barnabas - - -	32	31	38
St. Clement - - -	3	1	3
St. Ebbe - - -	11	7	14
St. Frideswide - - -	5	5	9
St. Giles - - -	...	7	1
SS. Mary and John - - -	20	22	21
St. Mary Magdalen - - -	5	2	...
St. Paul - - -	7	...	...
St. Peter-in-East - - -	1	1	...
St. Peter-le-Bailey - - -	4	1	2
SS. Philip and James - - -	2	...	1
St. Thomas - - -	3	2	5
Summertown - - -	...	...	1
Wesleyan - - -	5	...	...
P. T. Centre - - -	...	2	...
Total - - -	154	129	156

At present no steps have been taken in the case of Sunday Schools, which would seem to play a considerable part in the spread of the disease, as children from different day schools and residing in different districts are brought together on Sunday, and carry the infection to districts and schools not already infected. The parents are instructed

to keep their children from Sunday as well as week-day school, but there is nothing to prevent the children from going, possibly with friends, to schools where they are not known. It is natural that many parents should not wish everybody to know that their children have Scarlet Fever, but in many cases greater publicity would, I believe, be a considerable safeguard. If every parent knew that a case of Scarlet Fever had occurred at a school they might be a little more careful about sending their children when they had sore throats, &c., and might possibly even, in a few cases, try to keep them apart from the others at home.

During the year there have been several instances where children attending infected schools have been sick, and had sore throats. Although no rash has been seen, and the illness has not been followed by peeling, these children have given Scarlet Fever to one or more members of their families.

Scarlet Fever is a very difficult disease to deal with ;—in some cases the true nature of the disease is only recognised when another member of the family fails, while in many instances the infection seems to cling about the patient for months.

There is one point which calls for attention, viz., the risk of infection which very young children run by going to school.

I have collected the cases of Scarlet Fever reported in children under the age of 5 years during the past 2 years, excluding those where the disease was contracted in an institution.

The cases have been classed in two groups—children that go to week-day or Sunday School, and those that do not. Children who for various reasons had not been to school for 10 days before developing the disease are entered under the group “No School.” Each group has been divided into two



headings: (i.) where the patient was the first case in the house,—that is, probably contracted the disease away from home; (ii.) where the patient was the second or third case,—that is, probably contracted the disease at home.

TABLE B.

Age of Patient.	Total Cases.	School Children.			No School.		
		Ist Case.	Not Ist Case.	Total.	Ist Case.	Not Ist Case.	Total.
0—1 year	3	...	...	...	1	2	3
1—2 „	10	...	...	...	4	6	10
2—3 „	36	2	...	2	13	21	34
3—4 „	52	21	5	26	15	11	26
4—5 „	91	63	11	74	10	7	17
Total	192	86	16	102	43	47	90

The actual figures speak for themselves. Calculating on this basis, we see that in the case of children between the age of 3 and 5 years, who do not go to school, for every 100 who catch Scarlet Fever at home, 139 catch it elsewhere, while in the case of those who go to school, for every 100 who catch the disease at home, no fewer than 525 catch it somewhere else. There can be little doubt that school influence has played a very considerable part during the past two years in the spread of Scarlet Fever among these children, and it is quite fair to assume that the same has been true in the case of Whooping Cough.

No child need be sent to school before it reaches the age of 5 years.

The average number of children under 5 years of age on the school books last year was 921.

There are many reasons why these children go to school. Some of them like to go—some mothers go out to work—



others do not like to be bothered with them—the teachers are anxious to have as large a number on their books as possible. There are two sides to every question. In a certain portion of cases it is a great convenience for mothers who go out to work to send their children to school, but in the great majority of cases, the educational advantage of sending babies to school, not the desire of parents to neglect their duties, or of teachers to increase their numbers, ought to be carefully weighed against the risks which such a course entails.

### *Diphtheria.*

Only nineteen cases were reported during the year, the majority being due to a small outbreak in North Oxford at the beginning of the year. In two cases the disease proved fatal.

In several cases bacteriological examination failed to confirm the clinical diagnosis.

### *Measles.*

The disease was prevalent in the spring, but only seven deaths were reported, all being children under 5 years of age.

### *Whooping Cough.*

The disease was prevalent all over the town, and 22 deaths, all under 5 years of age, were registered. Of these 22, 17 were under the age of 1 year. The parishes in which these deaths occurred will be seen in Table IVa.

The disease is one with which it is very difficult to deal, as in many cases the patient has a cough and is infectious for a week or so before it begins to “whoop,” while in others the patient is never heard to “whoop” at all. A cough which comes on in paroxysms should always be regarded with the greatest suspicion.

In spite of the amount of child-life sacrificed every year, most parents continue to regard Whooping Cough with contempt, and treat it in a manner which, but for their gross ignorance, would be little short of criminal.

### *Fever.*

Only three cases of Enteric Fever were reported during the year, the infection in all the cases being contracted away from Oxford.

The City is to be congratulated upon such a satisfactory record.

### *Diarrhœa.*

17 deaths were registered as due to Diarrhœa, Zymotic Enteritis, &c.

The question has already been dealt with under infant mortality.

### *Bacteriological Work.*

The following specimens have been examined during the year :—

	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total.
For Enteric Fever ...	...	2	...	1	3
For Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	7	4	5	4	20
For Diphtheria—					
A—Cases in Hospital	7	7	2	...	16
B—Cases in the town	52	20	7	16	95
Total ...	66	33	14	21	134

The small number of specimens examined for Diphtheria is due to the fact that the City was remarkably free from that disease during the year,

## CORPORATION HOSPITALS.

*Fever Hospital.*

In Hospital Jan. 1st, 1905 = 33 cases of Scarlet Fever.

„ „ Dec. 31st, 1905 = 52 cases of Scarlet Fever.

Admitted 356 cases of Scarlet Fever = 75·42 % of cases notified.

Admitted 4 cases of Diphtheria = 21·05 % of cases notified.

Four cases of Scarlet Fever died, corresponding to a fatality of 1·12 %. One of these cases died at the end of the year, and the death was not registered until 1906. The four cases of diphtheria all recovered.

The pressure on the hospital was very heavy, and at times it was impossible to admit all the cases which were reported.

Month.	Admitted.		Discharged.		Died.	Daily Number in Hospital.		
	Sc.F.	Diph.	Sc.F.	Diph.		Maximum.	Minimum.	Average.
January	34	...	15	...	1	52	32	39·55
February	32	...	28	...	...	60	51	58·8
March	12	2	34	...	...	57	35	44·7
April	32	2	28	3	...	39	32	35·0
May	14	...	23	1	...	45	28	38·77
June	26	...	24	...	...	34	23	30·0
July	28	...	20	...	...	38	27	31·42
August	36	...	29	...	1	55	35	48·1
September	42	...	37	...	1	52	44	47·83
October	41	...	31	...	...	62	48	56·6
November	26	...	38	...	...	61	43	55·2
December	33	...	26	...	1	57	42	50·6
Total	356	4	333	4	4	...	...	44·47

The total number of days spent in hospital was 16,233, the average time each patient remained being 46·38 days.

The Matron wishes to thank many kind friends for very welcome presents of toys, books, cakes, and clothes during

the past year. Gifts of old toys and cast-off children's clothes will be always gratefully received.

### *Small Pox Hospital.*

The hospital was kept ready for the reception of patients, but fortunately there were no cases of Small Pox.

### *Water Supply.*

The water supplied to the District from the City Waterworks has been satisfactory throughout the year. The following figures have been taken from the monthly Reports of the Public Analyst to show the quality of the water at different seasons of the year. The figures indicate quantities as grains per gallon :—

Month.	Total Dissolved Solid Matter.	Chlorine in Chlorides.	Ammonia, free and Saline.	Ammonia, Albuminoid.	Nitrogen in Nitrates.	Nitrogen in Nitrites.	Oxygen required to Oxidise Or- ganic Matter in 3 hours.
January -	22·12	1·3	·001	·004	·14	0	·014
February -	28·8	1·5	·002	·005	·14	0	·014
March -	27·72	1·5	·001	·006	·14	0	·031
April -	26·6	1·4	·001	·005	·100	0	·049
May -	21·56	1·2	·002	·005	·14	0	·014
June -	20	1·2	·001	·005	·035	0	·038
July -	20·4	1·4	·001	·007	·056	0	·038
August -	18·5	1·1	·001	·007	·070	0	·032
September -	21·3	1·4	0	·005	·091	0	·023
October -	19·6	1·2	·001	·005	·100	0	·030
November -	26·88	1·4	·001	·005	·140	0	·042
December -	26·04	1·3	·001	·005	·105	0	·023



The approximate average composition of the total solids is as follows :—

Sodium Chloride	...	...	9·2
Sodium Nitrate	...	...	2·3
Magnesium Sulphate (dry)	...	...	4·6
Calcium Sulphate	...	...	9·2
Calcium Carbonate	...	...	71·0
Silica	...	...	3·7
Trace of potash, iron, &c.	...	...	—
			<hr/>
			100·0

The amount of calcium carbonate varies and is larger in the winter than in the summer.

*Factory and Workshop Act.*

Notices served during the year :—

To remove drain from bakehouse	...	1
To repair floor in bakehouse	...	2
To cleanse and limewash bakehouse		5
To cleanse and limewash workroom		1
To clear drain	... ..	1

During the year two notices were received from H.M. Inspector notifying new workshops, and three in respect to defects, which were remedied.

The following lists of out-workers were received :—

*Home Work.*—Lists of out-workers were received as follows, all being makers of wearing apparel :—

	February.	August.	Total.
No. of Lists received - -	3	4	7
„ Employers represented on ditto - - -	3	4	7
„ Workers „ „ -	30	46	76
„ Contractors „ „ -	...	...	...

There is a considerable falling off in the number of lists received and the matter requires attention.

*Infectious Disease.*—A large number of cases of Scarlet Fever were reported in the houses of persons occupied in the making of wearing apparel and laundry-work, either at home or elsewhere. Disinfection was carried out in all cases, and precautions were taken that no work should be done until all danger of infection was over.

The number of workers affected was as follows :—

Wearing apparel (various)	...	12
Tailoring	... ..	13
Dressmaking	... ..	3
Boot making and mending	...	4
Laundry-work	... ..	22
Total		54

No special inspector has been appointed to carry out the provisions of the Act, and the work has been done in the routine inspection of the various districts.

I hope this year to be able to put the work on a systematic basis.

*The Inspector's Report.*

This report deals at length with the work done in the removal of nuisances, disinfection, &c. Information will also be found with regard to the work done in removal of house refuse, road scavenging, public bathing places, &c., the inspection of slaughter houses, dairies and milkshops, and common lodging-houses, and the carrying out of various Acts.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. L. ORMEROD, M.A., M.D.,

D.P.H. (Oxon), M.R.C.P.,

February, 1906.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

TABLE I. POPULATION 1901 CENSUS.

Civil Parish.	Area in Statute Acres.	HOUSES.				Population.	
		Inhabit- ed.	Uninhabited.		Build- ing.	1891.	1901.
			In occu- pation.	Not in oc- cupation.			
Binsey . . .	425	14	...	...	...	78	54
Cowley St. John . .	603	2427	46	69	19	8668	11061
Holywell . . .	249	143	1	8	1	709	710
Oxford University, Colleges & Halls	...	77	2	...	...	252	279
St. Aldate . . .	533	1066	27	22	27	4091	4883
St. Clement . . .	531	692	28	30	...	3533	3365
St. Ebbe . . .	48	978	36	27	...	4964	4486
St. Giles . . .	1430	2449	90	81	31	10548	11877
St. John . . .	9	32	1	2	...	91	83
St. Martin and All Saints . . .	12	96	56	2	2	633	452
St. Mary Magdalen	42	318	45	15	...	1733	1377
St. Mary-the-Virgin	12	50	10	2	...	224	206
St. Michael . . .	15	130	90	7	...	592	586
St. Peter-in-the-East	86	91	13	6	5	497	366
St. Peter-le-Bailey .	11	136	45	7	...	695	656
St. Thomas . . .	712	1785	36	28	...	8434	8895
Unnamed . . .	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
City of Oxford . .	4719	10484	526	306	85	45742	49336

TABLE II. AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF THE POPULATION.

	All ages.	0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85-
Persons	49336	4742	4715	5190	5247	4777	7649	6207	4791	3321	1897	693	107
Males	21827	2390	2357	2601	2245	1884	3083	2704	2095	1375	794	273	26
Females	27509	2352	2358	2589	3002	2893	4566	3503	2696	1946	1103	420	81

TABLE III. VITAL STATISTICS OF THE WHOLE DISTRICT.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Total deaths registered in the district.				Total deaths in Public Institutions in the district.	Deaths of non-residents registered in Pub. Inst. in the district.	Deaths of residents registered in Pub. Inst. beyond the district.	Nett deaths at all ages belonging to the district.	
				Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.						
		Num-ber.	Rate.	Num-ber.	Rate per 1000 births registered	Num-ber.	Rate.				Num-ber.	Rate.
I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895	47266	1244	26·3	164	131·5	781	16·5	111	36	19	764	16·1
1896	47626	1188	24·9	180	151·5	796	16·7	123	46	33	783	16·4
1897	47986	1174	24·5	153	130·0	754	15·4	148	49	10	715	14·9
1898	48346	1160	24·0	140	120·5	674	13·9	118	...	...	662	13·7
1899	48706	1094	22·3	159	145·5	824	16·9	135	55	19	788	16·2
1900	49066	1151	23·2	137	119·0	720	14·7	126	37	34	717	14·6
1901	49426	1132	23·0	147	129·5	687	13·9	143	28	27	686	13·9
1902	49786	1110	22·3	148	133·3	764	15·3	163	68	30	726	14·6
1903	50146	1024	20·4	100	97·6	681	13·5	141	52	28	657	13·1
1904	50506	1100	21·77	124	112·7	707	14·0	173	85	19	641	12·7
Average of ten years.	48886	1137	23·3	145	127·4	739	15·1	138	50	24	714	14·6
1905	50866	1081	21·25	127	117·5	709	13·9	170	74	28	663	13·0

Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.



TABLE IV. BIRTHS AND DEATHS DISTRIBUTED AMONG PARISHES.

Civil Parish.	Popula- tion, 1901.	Births.		Deaths.						Deaths under 1 year, rate per 1000 births.
		Num- ber.	Rate.	0-	1-	5-	65-	Total	Rate.	
Binsey -	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cowley St. John -	11061	296	26·8	29	10	49	49	137	12·4	98
Holywell -	710	8	11·2	2	...	1	2	5	7·0	250
Oxford Univ. (part) -	279	3	10·7	...	...	1	1	2	7·2	...
St. Aldate -	4883	134	27·5	17	5	31	14	67	13·7	127
St. Clement -	3365	89	26·4	15	5	19	14	53	15·7	168
St. Ebbe -	4486	145	32·4	25	6	33	22	86	19·2	172
St. Giles -	11877	161	13·5	14	3	59	65	141	11·9	87
St. John -	83	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	12·0	...
St. Martin and All Saints -	452	4	8·9	...	...	3	2	5	11·0	...
St. Mary Magdalen -	1377	10	7·3	4	...	4	6	14	10·1	400
St. Mary-the-Virgin -	206	2	9·7	...	...	...	1	1	4·9	...
St. Michael -	586	6	10·2	...	...	5	1	6	10·2	...
St. Peter-in-the-East	366	2	5·5	...	...	2	1	3	8·2	...
St. Peter-le-Bailey -	656	8	12·1	...	1	7	4	12	18·3	...
St. Thomas -	8895	213	24·0	22	11	59	38	130	14·6	103
City of Oxford -	49336	1081	22·0	128	41	273	221	663	13·4	118

TABLE IVa.

Cause of death.	Binsey.	Cowley St. John.	Holywell.	Oxford Univ. (part).	St. Aldate.	St. Clement.	St. Ebbe.	St. Giles.	St. John.	St. Martin.	St. Mary Magdalen.	St. Mary-the-Virgin.	St. Michael.	St. Peter-in-the-East.	St. Peter-le-Bailey.	St. Thomas.	Residents in Public Institutions.
Measles - - -	...	2	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever - -	...	3	..	...	2	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Whooping Cough -	...	2	...	...	5	3	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...
Diphtheria - - -	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza - - -	...	2	1	...	3	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Diarrhœa - - -	...	4	...	...	...	...	5	5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...
Enteritis - - -	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Fever -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas - -	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other septic diseases	...	3	..	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Phthisis - - -	...	10	1	...	4	2	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	13	2
Other tubercular diseases - -	...	3	...	...	1	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	4
Cancer - - -	...	4	...	...	6	1	4	22	...	...	1	...	1	1	3	11	7
Bronchitis - - -	...	15	1	1	...	4	7	11	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	10	6
Pneumonia - - -	...	6	1	...	2	5	13	9	...	1	2	...	2	...	...	6	12
Other respiratory diseases - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Alcoholism and Cirrhosis of Liver -	...	3	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	2
Venereal diseases -	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Premature birth -	...	3	...	...	6	...	3	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	2
Heart disease - -	...	13	...	...	7	7	10	10	...	2	3	...	...	1	..	16	10
Accidents - - -	...	4	...	...	1	1	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	4
Suicides & Homicides	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	3
All other causes -	...	57	1	1	26	21	22	57	1	1	4	...	3	1	6	44	64
Total -	...	137	5	2	67	53	86	141	1	5	14	1	6	3	12	130	124





TABLE VI. CAUSES AND AGES OF DEATHS WHICH MAKE UP THE NETT DEATH-RATE.

No.	DISEASE.	Ages.												Total for Quarters.					
		0-	1-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85-	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Totl.
2	Measles . . . . .	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	4	...	7
3	Scarlet Fever . . . . .	1	6	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	1	1	3	3	8
5	Epidemic Influenza . . . . .	2	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	12	1	...	1	14
6	Whooping Cough . . . . .	17	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	5	10	5	22
7	Diphtheria . . . . .	...	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	...	...	...	2
8	Enteric Fever . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
10	Diarrhoea and Epidemic Enteritis . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11		...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	2	1	13	1	17
12	Gastro-Enteritis . . . . .	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
18	Syphilis . . . . .	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	...	1	4
21	Erysipelas . . . . .	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1
22	Puerperal Fever . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
23	Pyæmia . . . . .	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
25	Other Septic Diseases . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
27	Rheumatic Fever . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
28	Rheumatism of Heart . . . . .	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
29	Tuberculosis of Brain . . . . .	3	3	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	2	8
30	Tuberculosis of Larynx . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
31	Phthisis . . . . .	...	...	1	1	4	5	11	6	10	4	1	...	...	1	13	10	15	43
32	Abdominal Tuberculosis . . . . .	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	3
33	General Tuberculosis . . . . .	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
42	Chronic Alcoholism . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
45	Osteo-Arthritis . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
46	Gout. . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
47	Cancer . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	7	...	14	14	16	10	54
48	Diabetes Mellitus . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
51	Anæmia . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	3
53	Premature Birth . . . . .	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	7	6	1	18
55	Debility at Birth . . . . .	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	4
56	Atelectasis . . . . .	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
57	Congenital Defects . . . . .	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
59	Atrophy, Marasmus, &c. . . . .	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
60	Dentition . . . . .	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	7	4	17
62	Old Age Senile Decay . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	26	20	15	16	10	13	54
63	Convulsions . . . . .	6	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	3	1	8
64	Meningitis . . . . .	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
66	Apoplexy . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	8	5	1	...	4	7	6	2	20
67	Softening of Brain . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	3	1	2	2	2	2	2	8
68	Hemiplegia . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
69	General Paralysis of Insane . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
70	Other Forms of Insanity . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
73	Epilepsy . . . . .	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	4	1	2	2	...	...	4	4	...	1	9
75	Locomotor Ataxy . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	1	1	1	1	4
77	Other Forms of Brain Diseases . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
78	Otitis . . . . .	...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	3	3	1	...	...	1	4	2	2	9
81	Pericarditis . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	4
86	Senile Gangrene . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
87	Embolism, Thrombosis . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	...	3	2	1	1	7
90	Heart Disease, &c. . . . .	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	6	11	15	17	13	...	20	13	12	22	67
91	Laryngitis . . . . .	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
93	Other Diseases of Larynx . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
94	Bronchitis . . . . .	11	3	1	...	...	1	...	2	7	11	...	13	...	21	9	6	15	51
95	Pneumonia . . . . .	15	4	2	...	...	...	...	7	4	7	7	7	...	13	9	6	19	47
96	Emphysema Asthma . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
99	Diseases of Pharynx . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
103	Ulcer of Stomach . . . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
105	Other Diseases of Stomach . . . . .	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	1	3	...	2	6
106	Enteritis . . . . .	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...					

TABLE V. DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

Name of Institution.	Residents.					Non-Residents.				
	1st Qrt.	2nd Qrt.	3rd Qrt.	4th Qrt.	Total.	1st Qrt.	2nd Qrt.	3rd Qrt.	4th Qrt.	Total.
Radcliffe Infirmary	11	11	14	19	55	11	20	20	13	64
St. John's Hospital	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	2	...	3
City Hospital -	1	...	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Eye Hospital -	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Small Pox Hos- pital - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oxford Workhouse	10	9	8	8	35	...	...	...	...	...
Headington Work- house - -	4	2	3	5	14	...	...	...	...	...
Littlemore Asylum	5	5	1	3	14	...	...	...	...	...
Warneford Asylum	1	...	...	...	1	2	2	1	2	7
Total -	32	27	29	36	124	13	23	23	15	74

TABLE VII. NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE  
DURING LAST 10 YEARS.

Name of Disease.	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905
Small Pox - -	24	...	...	...	...	1	1	14	2	...
Scarlet Fever -	125	47	28	40	39	42	66	175	384	472
Diphtheria - -	46	19	30	91	131	122	76	63	21	19
Typhoid Fever -	24	30	32	11	24	5	5	8	5	3
Erysipelas - -	23	32	47	28	36	27	28	19	22	31
Puerperal Fever -	4	3	9	3	5	2	1	...	1	2
Total	246	131	146	173	235	199	177	279	435	527

TABLE VIII. AGES OF CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1905.

Name of Disease.	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-65	65-	Total.
Small Pox - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever -	4	108	310	33	17	...	472
Diphtheria - -	...	2	9	3	5	...	19
Erysipelas - -	1	...	2	2	19	7	31
Typhoid Fever -	...	1	1	...	1	...	3
Puerperal Fever -	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Total	5	111	322	38	44	7	527



TABLE IX. DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF NOTIFIABLE  
DISEASES DURING 1905.

Parish.	Notified.							Removed to Hospital.			
	Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Total.	Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Total.
Binsey . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cowley St. John . . .	...	137	2	15	...	1	155	...	118	2	120
Holywell . . .	...	5	...	...	...	...	5	...	2	...	2
Oxford University (part) . . .	...	2	...	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	1
St. Aldate . . .	...	78	6	1	...	...	85	...	47	1	48
St. Clement . . .	...	35	1	1	...	1	38	...	22	...	22
St. Ebbe . . .	...	55	...	2	1	...	58	...	45	...	45
St. Giles . . .	...	36	10	3	1	...	50	...	17	1	18
St. John . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Martin and All Saints . . .	...	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	2
St. Mary Mag- dalen . . .	...	2	...	2	...	...	4	...	2	...	2
St. Mary-the-Vir- gin . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Michael . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Peter-in-the- East . . .	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	1
St. Peter-le-Bai- ley . . .	...	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	2
St. Thomas . . .	...	114	...	7	...	...	121	...	97	...	97
Total . . .	...	472	19	31	3	2	527	...	356	4	360

TABLE X. DEATHS FROM SOME OF THE  
PREVENTABLE DISEASES.

Year.	Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Croup and Laryngitis.	Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Diarrhoea.	Dysentery.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Tuberculosis.	Respiratory Diseases
1873	1	...	4	11	6	11	41	2	1	26	117	112
1874	...	...	18	15	4	6	39	...	13	4	111	83
1875	...	1	19	5	3	8	40	...	...	16	107	119
1876	...	11	7	2	6	12	37	...	4	9	104	57
1877	...	35	9	7	2	11	17	...	22	1	106	103
1878	...	11	9	3	3	9	54	...	7	29	109	149
1879	...	2	13	5	...	7	9	...	1	6	100	93
1880	...	8	7	2	...	4	47	...	12	2	91	136
1881	1	14	6	4	...	9	17	...	28	22	73	94
1882	4	84	6	4	...	8	25	...	3	13	56	104
1883	1	9	3	6	...	7	19	...	...	8	82	121
1884	...	3	2	4	...	15	21	...	11	34	82	91
1885	...	3	4	1	...	5	17	...	26	6	87	123
1886	1	1	3	2	...	4	23	...	16	16	104	111
1887	...	3	5	1	...	7	31	...	7	12	69	133
1888	...	...	1	2	...	5	16	...	4	2	67	78
1889	...	1	5	...	...	1	32	...	41	11	65	105
1890	...	6	...	...	...	2	21	...	10	13	98	145
1891	...	5	3	1	...	1	12	...	24	5	79	138
1892	...	...	23	5	...	1	11	1	3	36	83	145
1893	...	6	32	9	...	2	14	...	25	...	74	103
1894	...	2	23	3	...	3	10	...	...	2	80	75
1895	...	...	14	4	...	1	23	...	...	24	79	135
1896	...	2	5	5	...	4	23	...	52	18	66	100
1897	...	...	2	2	...	6	20	...	4	23	65	114
1898	...	...	5	3	...	2	27	1	...	4	61	113
1899	...	...	3	1	...	...	22	...	38	9	66	102
1900	...	...	2	2	...	4	13	...	2	17	74	126
1901	...	...	3	3	...	...	13	...	...	1	56	110
1902	1	1	2	1	...	...	3	...	20	18	81	116
1903	2	1	1	...	...	2	13	...	...	10	71	81
1904	...	4	...	2	...	...	31	...	8	3	68	73
1905	...	8	2	1	...	1	17	...	7	22	57	99

TABLE XI. THE ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE  
PER 1,000.

	England & Wales.	76 Towns.	142 Towns.	Oxford.
Small Pox - -	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Scarlet Fever - -	0·11	0·13	0·11	0·16
Measles - -	0·32	0·39	0·31	0·14
Whooping Cough	0·25	0·29	0·23	0·43
Diphtheria - -	0·16	0·16	0·15	0·04
Fever - -	0·09	0·08	0·13	0·02
Diarrhoea - -	0·59	0·83	0·57	0·33
Total	1·52	1·88	1·50	1·12





SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT,  
1905.





# SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1905.

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*Sanitary Inspector's Office,  
Oxford,  
February, 1906.*

*To the Members of the City Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you my annual report for the year ending December 31st, 1905.

During the year 652 inspections have been made for the purpose of ascertaining the existence of nuisances. As in previous years, frequent visits have been made to the yards, courts, and passages within the district, and the nuisances discovered promptly dealt with.

It may be mentioned that in addition to these inspections, numerous re-inspections and visits to premises during the carrying out of the various requirements of notices were made.

The number of notices issued during the year was 564, viz., 355 preliminary, and 209 served by order of the Sanitary Committee upon reports made by me; 463 houses and 214 houses have respectively been dealt with, whilst in many instances verbal intimation to those responsible was sufficient to bring about the desired result. Although pressure had at times to be applied before some of the notices were complied with, it is satisfactory to record that it was not necessary to resort to legal proceedings.

During the year I have, in company with the Medical Officer of Health, made special inspections of many of the

yards and courts in the City. The houses in Wareham's Yard, St. Thomas, being in a very unsanitary condition, a report was made to the owners by the Medical Officer of Health, calling their attention to the fact, with the result that 9 houses have been demolished, thus opening out a very congested area.

Dover's Row, consisting of 28 houses, has also received attention. Up to the present time closing orders have been obtained from the Justices for 9 houses, the houses being totally unfit for human habitation. Several houses are now under consideration.

### *Housing of the Working Classes Act.*

Four houses have been reported to the Sanitary Committee as unfit for human habitation. Notices under the above Act were served on the owners requiring them to make the houses fit for human habitation or discontinue their use as dwelling houses. In two instances the houses have been repaired and rendered fit for habitation, and the other two, for which notices were served in the latter part of the year, are now under consideration.

With regard to the abatement of nuisances the following table shows the requirements of the notices served during the past year :—

Requirements of Notices.	Notices from Inspector	Notices from Committee
To make premises fit for human habitation, or discontinue their use as dwelling houses .		3
To cleanse, repair, and limewash premises . .	22	46
To cleanse, repair and limewash rooms . .	1	2
To put premises in a proper state of repair . .	7	8
To repair roofs . . . . .	2	7
To repair and limewash washhouses . . . . .	20	16

Requirements of Notices.	Notices from Inspector	Notices from Committee
To repair and limewash closets . . . . .	22	16
To abate overcrowding . . . . .	3	13
To put drains in a proper state of repair . . . . .	31	10
To lay new drain . . . . .	1	
To clear drains . . . . .	100	11
To fix syphon traps to drains . . . . .	6	10
To fix new closet pans . . . . .	14	6
To repair water fittings and supply closets with a sufficient flush of water . . . . .	66	18
To supply houses with a pure and wholesome supply of water . . . . .	10	4
To provide cistern and water supply to closets . . . . .	4	1
To remove accumulations of manure . . . . .	9	2
To remove accumulations of refuse . . . . .	15	1
To remove swine kept contrary to the By-laws . . . . .	6	3
To repave yards . . . . .	31	24
To empty cesspool . . . . .		1
To pave and drain premises, or discontinue their use as stables . . . . .		1
To repair spouting . . . . .	3	10
To connect drains with the sewer . . . . .		2
To provide additional closet accommodation . . . . .		1
To abate other nuisances . . . . .	53	34

### *Calls at Office and Complaints.*

For the purpose of making enquiries, 2,813 calls at the office have been made. 269 complaints have been recorded, and inspections made to ascertain the cause of such complaints, and, where found necessary, notices served upon those responsible to abate the nuisance. In every case such notice was duly complied with.

### *Drain Testing.*

Thirteen house drains have been tested with the smoke and peppermint vapour test, with the result that 10 were



found to be in a defective condition. Notices were served on the owners to put the drains in a sanitary condition, and the necessary works were satisfactorily carried out.

### *Water Supply.*

Two samples of pump water have been submitted to the Public Analyst, who reported both as being polluted. Notices were served requiring the owners to obtain a pure and wholesome supply of water for such houses, and the notices were complied with, the supply being obtained from the City mains.

### *Movable Dwellings.*

As in previous years the dwelling vans of persons visiting Oxford for the purpose of attending the various fairs have been inspected, in order to ascertain their sanitary condition, and also for the purpose of detecting any infectious disease which might exist among the persons travelling with the vans. 148 vans used as dwellings have been inspected during the year, and I am pleased to report that the vans were in a satisfactory condition, and no case of infectious disease was met with.

The particulars of inspections at each fair are embodied in the following table. The figures do not include the large number of itinerant vendors attending :—

Fair.	Vans used as dwellings.	Luggage wagons.	Men.	Women.	Children.
Gloucester Green .	26	33	53	28	31
St. Giles' . . .	119	144	273	131	103
St. Clement's . .	3*	4*	7	2	2
	148	181	333	161	136

\* The owners removed their vans from the streets into private yards.



*Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.*

As Inspector under these Acts, I have procured and submitted to the Public Analyst 91 samples for analysis, 85 of which were certified as genuine.

The following table gives the particulars of the samples submitted :—

Article.	No. of samples purchased.	Genuine.	Not Genuine.
Brandy . . . . .	5	1	4 (1)
Bread . . . . .	8	8	
Butter . . . . .	7	7	
Cheese . . . . .	7	7	
Coffee . . . . .	7	7	
Demerara Sugar . . . . .	7	7	
Flour . . . . .	9	9	
Lard . . . . .	7	7	
Margarine . . . . .	4	4	
Milk . . . . .	18	17	1 (2)
Mustard . . . . .	5	5	(3)
Pepper . . . . .	6	6	
Whisky . . . . .	1		1 (4)
Totals .	91	85	6

(1) *Brandy*. (a) 25° U.P. "A mixture of Grape Brandy with 60% of Foreign Spirit."

(b) 15° U.P. "A mixture of Grape Brandy and 33% of Foreign Spirit."

(c) 18° U.P. "A mixture of Grape Brandy with 60% of Foreign Spirit."

(2) *Milk*. Deficient in fat 19%. No proceedings taken.

(3) *Mustard*. Two of these samples were sold as mixtures, and were certified to contain 10% of flour, and a little coloring.

(4) *Whisky*. 30° U.P. 5° below legal limit.

One of H.M. Inspectors from the Board of Agriculture (A. W. Monro, Esq.) visited Oxford on Monday the 13th

day of November, for the purpose of making enquiries as to the execution of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts within the City. He examined the Registers and expressed himself satisfied with the manner in which the Acts were being carried out in the City.

### *Unsound Food.*

Several shop-keepers were cautioned during the year for exposing for sale unsound food. Several parcels of fruit were ordered to be sorted; the vendors readily complied with the request, the unsound portion being destroyed.

### *Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order.*

There are now 66 Cowkeepers, Dairymen, and Purveyors of Milk on the Register, six have been withdrawn from the Register during the year, and two persons have been registered, viz., one cowkeeper, and one purveyor of milk.

Frequent inspections of the premises of the persons registered have been made during the year.

### *Slaughter-houses.*

The registered and licensed Slaughter-houses within the City have been frequently inspected, and found to be kept in a satisfactory condition, and in accordance with the By-Laws.

One application to license premises to be used as a slaughter-house has been refused by the Sanitary Committee. The premises were considered to be quite inadequate for the purpose and were in close proximity to dwelling-houses.

There are now 24 registered and 3 licensed Slaughter-houses on the Register.

On October 12th I received from the Town Clerk copies of a notice issued by the Board of Agriculture respecting

Anthrax, warning butchers, slaughterers, and knackers against the danger of shedding the blood of animals suffering from the disease. Such notices were distributed the same day.

*Registered Common Lodging-houses.*

162 inspections of Common Lodging-houses have been made during the year.

The houses were found to be kept in a cleanly state, and it has only been necessary to caution the landlords, viz., for overcrowding.

I reported to your Committee that two persons were using their premises as Common Lodging-houses, viz., one in High Street, St. Thomas', and the other in Caroline Street, St. Clement's, the premises in neither case being registered as such.

Your Committee caused the occupiers of the houses to be cautioned against using their premises as Common Lodging-houses, until they were registered.

The premises in High Street, St. Thomas', have been registered, and the use of those in Caroline Street as a lodging-house have been discontinued. There are now four Common Lodging-houses in the City with a total of 25 rooms, which are certified to accommodate 79 lodgers.

*Houses let in Lodgings.*

The By-Laws with respect to Houses let in Lodgings, or occupied by members of more than one family, in the City of Oxford are now in force.

I have reported that the following houses were let in lodgings and recommended that the necessary steps be taken for their registration :—

4 Hollybush Row.

1, 2, and 3 Cook's Yard, Caroline Street.



Your Committee caused notices to be served on the occupiers requiring them to supply the necessary information under By-Law 7, to enable them to register the premises as houses let in lodgings.

The particulars have been supplied in both instances.

Before these houses can be registered, they have to be inspected, each room measured, the cubic capacity ascertained, and the number of persons who may occupy the house or part of the house which is let in lodgings fixed.

This work is in course of progress, and a report will be submitted to the Sanitary Committee shortly dealing with the matter.

I may mention that with respect to one of the houses, notices have already been served on the owner or occupier to carry out the following works which are now in hand :—

1. To put premises in a proper state of repair.
2. To reduce the number of occupants.
3. To provide additional closet accommodation.
4. To repave passage and yard.

*Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884, and the Regulations  
of the Local Government Board.*

Under these Acts and Regulations 60 Canal Boats have been inspected during the year. The boats were found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition generally, and with few exceptions kept in accordance with the Regulations.

The contraventions met with were as under :—

Registration	Four.
Without proper water vessels	Six.

Notices were given to the owners calling their attention to the infringements, and were readily complied with.



There were 46 men, 34 women, and 46 children on the boats inspected. The ages of the children being as follows :—

<i>Girls.</i>		<i>Boys.</i>	
Under 1 year	= 2	Under 1 year	= 2
1 to 5 years	= 2	1 to 5 years	= 4
5 „ 10 „	= 1	5 to 10 „	= 12
10 „ 12 „	= 3	10 „ 14 „	= 20
	<hr/> 8		<hr/> 38

Four new boats have been registered during the year, and one boat has been withdrawn from the register.

The number of boats on the register is 15.

On Tuesday, July 18th, H.M. Inspector under the Canal Boats Acts, Owen J. Llewelyn, Esq., visited Oxford, for the purpose of making inquiries as to the carrying out of the Acts and Regulations within the City. He examined the Register and Inspector's Journal, and expressed himself satisfied with the work done.

#### *Removal of House Refuse.*

For the purpose of collecting and removing house refuse, the City is divided into two districts ; the refuse from one district is removed on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and from the other on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

1,398 Notices to householders and occupiers of premises have been distributed during the year, calling their attention to the Regulations with respect to the removal of house refuse.

During the past year 13,892 loads of house refuse have been removed, showing an increase of 668 on the previous year. The average weight of a load of house refuse is

25 cwt., giving a total of 17,365 tons for the year, or an increase of 835 tons on last year.

The highest number of loads removed in any one day was 70, whilst on other days 61, 58 and 57 loads respectively were removed.

The lowest number of loads recorded were 31, 32 and 33.

It is estimated that nearly 200 houses were built during the year.

At the present time the total number of miles of streets is approximately 54.

The work of removing the house refuse has been done in a satisfactory manner, and very few complaints received.

The following table shows the number of loads removed during each month of the year 1905 :—

Month.	House Refuse.	Sweepings.	Total.
January . . . .	1,292	1,740	3,032
February . . . .	1,128	700	1,828
March . . . .	1,140	809	1,949
April . . . .	1,165	705	1,870
May . . . .	1,246	590	1,836
June . . . .	1,042	556	1,598
July . . . .	998	465	1,463
August . . . .	1,180	727	1,907
September . . . .	1,013	560	1,573
October . . . .	1,251	719	1,970
November . . . .	1,268	1,085	2,353
December . . . .	1,169	1,433	2,602
Totals .	13,892	10,089	23,981

The accompanying table compares the number of loads removed during 1905 with previous years :—

Year.	Number of Loads removed.		Total.
	House Refuse.	Sweepings or Mud.	
1892	8,108	5,227	13,335
1893	8,973	6,145	15,118
1894	9,582	6,609	16,191
1895	10,484	6,811	17,295
1896	10,659	6,982	17,641
1897	10,976	7,003	17,979
1898	11,048	7,105	18,153
1899	11,905	7,454	19,359
1900	12,474	8,520	20,994
1901	12,604	8,919	21,523
1902	12,905	8,923	21,828
1903	13,030	8,953	21,983
1904	13,224	10,220	23,444
1905	13,892	10,089	23,981

The figures mentioned in the foregoing tables do not include the removal of snow.

### *Street Cleansing.*

10,089 loads of sweepings and mud have been removed during the year, being 131 loads less than the previous year.

The number of loads removed for the month of January were 362 in excess of the corresponding month of last year, the increase being mainly due to the large quantity of gravel that was spread on the roads during the frosty weather.

The number of loads recorded for December of the previous year are 188 in excess of December of this year from the same cause.

The decrease for the year is accounted for by the fact that it has not been necessary for the roads to be coated with gravel during the months of November and December.

The highest number of loads removed in any one day was 185, whilst the lowest number recorded was 13.

The principal streets have been swept daily throughout the year, while on many occasions it was necessary to sweep some of them twice.

All other streets are swept on alternate days. For the purpose of keeping the principal streets clean after being swept in the early morning, eight street orderlies with trucks have been engaged between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. The bridges and footpaths for which the Corporation are responsible have been regularly cleansed by the sweepers.

On Sunday mornings, between the hours of 4 and 9 a.m., the main thoroughfares and the street crossings therein have been swept and the sweepings removed.

The following is a comparative statement of the estimate and expenditure of Scavenging and Removal and Disposal of House Refuse :—

Year.	Estimate.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1892—1893	4,446	4,398
1893—1894	4,302	4,209
1894—1895	4,349	4,156
1895—1896	4,346	4,265
1896—1897	4,400	4,327
1897—1898	4,393	4,209
1898—1899	4,349	4,343
1899—1900	4,724	4,922
1900—1901	4,875	5,513
1901—1902	5,240	5,444
1902—1903	5,400	5,229
1903—1904	5,480	5,446
1904—1905	5,860	5,854
1905—1906	6,277	

#### *Isis Street Yard.*

As mentioned in my last report the available space at the Isis Street yard is very inadequate, and it has been necessary



during the year to convert another cart shed into a loose box, to provide accommodation for the horses.

The plant has also been increased by the addition of one water van, two mud carts, and one dust cart, and now consists of 24 dust carts, 20 iron tumbler carts, 17 water vans, 4 street sweeping machines, 8 orderly trucks, 15 wheelbarrows, 5 hand carts, and 2 snow ploughs.

The stud at present numbers 26.

The question of providing the necessary accommodation is still a matter of great importance, and is now receiving the attention of your Committee.

### *Street Watering.*

The watering of the main thoroughfares was commenced on the 21st day of March, and gradually extended to the whole of the roads within the City, and continued till 7th October.

The total number of days the vans were engaged was 116.

The question of street watering is a difficult one to solve. While shopkeepers and others make complaint if the streets are not kept so that dust will not blow, cyclists complain if the streets are what they consider too wet. It is impossible to make any definite arrangements for the work on the previous night for the following day, as on several occasions the men have been engaged with the mud carts in the early morning, and dust has been blowing during the afternoon, and *vice versa*.

On the whole, I may say that we have been fairly successful, very few complaints having been received, and those generally on days when the weather was very changeable.

### *Public Conveniences.*

The public urinals in the City are regularly cleansed several times during each week-day, and once on Sunday morning.

The Underground Conveniences have been open to the public as under :—

Rewley Road	{ Weekdays, 7 a.m. to 11.30 p.m.
St. Clement's	{ Sundays, 9 „ „ 10.30 „
St. Giles'	Weekdays, 6 „ „ 11.30 „
„	Sundays, 6 „ „ 10.30 „

The amount collected from the underground conveniences during the year was £89 6s. 6d., being an increase of £7 5s. 2½d. on the amount collected during the previous year.

I submit the following statement of receipts from the public conveniences during the year ending December 31st, 1905 :—

Convenience.	Lavatories.	W.C's.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
St. Giles' .		35 2 4½	35 2 4½
Rewley Road .	5 13 6	21 9 6	27 3 0
St. Clement's .	2 0 4	25 0 9½	27 1 1½
£	7 13 10	81 12 8	89 6 6

### *Bathing Places.*

The Public Bathing Places, Tumbling Bay (Male), Long Bridges 2 (Male and Female), and St. Ebbe's (Male), were open to the public free of charge from May 1st to September 30th inclusive as follows :—

#### *Week-days.*

During May	from 6 a.m to 8.0 p.m.
„ June and July	„ „ „ 8.30 „
„ August	„ „ „ 8.0 „
„ September	„ „ „ 7.0 „

*Sundays.*

Tumbling Bay	from 6 a.m. to 12 noon.		
Long Bridges (Males)	„	„	10 a.m.
„ „ (Females)	„	„	„
St. Ebbe's	„	„	„

On Mondays and Wednesdays from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m., and all day on Fridays, Tumbling Bay Bathing Place was reserved for the use of females only.

St. Ebbe's Bathing Place is restricted to boys of 13 years of age and under.

The Bathing Places were very much frequented this year, owing to the weather being very favourable, and impetus given generally by the granting of Certificates by the Education Committee for proficiency in swimming and life saving.

Tumbling Bay in particular was, at times, almost overcrowded, and the Council should shortly consider the question of enlarging this bathing-place and providing additional bathing-places.

During the swimming competitions the numbers were so large that special arrangements were made to ensure the safety of the competitors, two men (good swimmers) in punts being provided to render assistance in case of accidents.

The Summerfields Bathing Place, River Cherwell, was again, by permission of Dr. Williams, kindly open to the public from August 4th to September 23 inclusive.

Weekdays, from 7 to 10 a.m., and from 5 to 8 p.m.

Sundays, „ 7 „ 10 „

This was much appreciated by the inhabitants of Summertown and District.

The wearing of bathing drawers was compulsory during the evenings.

*Free Ferry.*

The Free Ferry, Long Bridges, was, as in past years, open to the public as follows :—

During January	from 9 a.m. to 5.0 p.m.
„ February	„ „ „ „ 5.30 „
„ March	„ „ „ „ 7.0 „
„ April	„ „ „ „ 8.0 „
„ May	„ 6 a.m. „ 8.30 „
„ June	„ „ „ „ 9.15 „
„ July	„ „ „ „ „ „
„ August	„ „ „ „ 8.30 „
„ September	„ „ „ „ 7.30 „
„ October	„ 9 a.m. „ 6.0 „
„ November	„ „ „ „ 5.0 „
„ December	„ „ „ „ „ „

The Free Ferry and path leading thereto were closed on Monday, November 6th, to prevent any claim as a public right of way being made.

*Infectious Diseases.*

In all cases where the Medical Officer certified that the whitewashing and cleansing of premises would tend to prevent or check the spread of infectious disease, notices were served and the necessary works carried out.

Disinfectants were also freely supplied where thought necessary.

*Infectious Diseases Prevention Act.*

Under the above Act, proceedings have been taken in one instance, viz., for hiring a public conveyance, other than a hearse, for the conveyance of the body of a person who had died of an infectious disease, without previously notifying to the owner or driver thereof that the person had died from an infectious disease.

The defendant was convicted and fined.



*Disinfection of Premises, &c.*

723 rooms, including 8 schools, have been disinfected during the year. The following articles were removed to the City Hospital, and disinfected by means of the Thresh Steam Disinfecting apparatus :—

Beds and Mattresses	...	...	290
Pillows and Bolsters	...	...	375
Blankets ...	...	...	262
Carpets ...	...	...	104
Articles of Clothing, &c.	...	...	586
			<hr/>
			1,617
			<hr/>

The Water Closets and Drains in various streets, and in the yards, courts, and passages, have been disinfected frequently during the summer months.

In accordance with the requirements of the Board of Agriculture Order, 24th June, 1904, the disinfection of the Cattle Market, after each market, has been carried out by the staff of the Sanitary Department.

*Prevention of Consumption.*

To aid in the prevention of Consumption 28 rooms have been disinfected.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

THOS J. HULL,

*Sanitary Inspector.*

